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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicants: H. OGAWA et al.

AUG 15 2001

Serial No.: 09/812,582

Technology Center 2600

Filed: March 21, 2001

For: DISK DRIVE APPARATUS AND METHOD OF
MOUNTING SAME

Art Unit: 2651

Examiner: K. Wong

PRELIMINARY REMARKS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

August 13, 2001

Sir:

Prior to examination, and further to the preliminary amendment of June 21, 2001, the following remarks are submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending, with claims 1, 3, and 14-18 being independent.

A claim for priority was filed on March 21, 2001. Acknowledgement of the claim for priority is respectfully requested.

An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was filed on March 21, 2001. Consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested.